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LETTER DATED 24 MAY 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that the violations of Iraqi national airspace committed by United States aircraft in order to carry out reconnaissance and cause provocation continued over the period 12-20 May 1995.

12 May 1995

1. Southern region: 90 sorties, flown by two- to four-aircraft formations at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Artawi, Busayyah, Qurnah, Basra, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Lasaf and Jalibah.

2. On 12 May 1995, two United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, as follows:

The first flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1000 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1120 hours.

The second flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1345 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1515 hours.

3. At 1640 hours on 12 May 1995 a hostile two-aircraft formation broke the sound barrier in the Jalibah area.

13 May 1995

1. Northern region: 6 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Irbil, Dohuk, Zakho and Amadiyah.

2. Southern region: 61 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Qurnah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Shanafiyah and Busayyah.

3. On 13 May 1995, two United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, as follows:

The first flight entered Iraqi airspace at 0833 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1035 hours.

The second flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1207 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1215 hours.

14 May 1995

1. Northern region: 9 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Zakho, Dohuk, Amadiyah, Irbil, Aqrah and Mosul.

2. Southern region: 61 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basra, Qurnah, Chabaish and Busayyah.

3. At 1035 hours on 14 May 1995, a United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at a speed of 600 kilometres per hour and at an altitude of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace. It left in the direction of Kuwait at 1118 hours.

15 May 1995

1. Northern region: 19 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Mosul, Irbil, Zakho, Dohuk, Aqrah, Tall Afar and Amadiyah.

2. Southern region: 91 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Nasiriyah, Basra, Qurnah, Jalibah, Busayyah, Salman and Artawi.

3. On 15 May 1995, three United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, as follows:

The first flight entered Iraqi airspace at 0820 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 0940 hours.

The second flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1000 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1148 hours.

The third flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1112 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1220 hours.

16 May 1995

1. Northern region: 12 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Amadiyah and Tall Afar.

2. Southern region: 90 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Nasiriyah, Samawah, Chabaish, Artawi, Jalibah and Busayyah.

3. On 16 May 1995, two United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, as follows:

The first flight entered Iraqi airspace at 0925 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1120 hours.

The second flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1212 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1415 hours.

4. At 1937 hours on 16 May 1995 a hostile two-aircraft formation broke the sound barrier over Nasiriyah.

17 May 1995

1. Northern region: 15 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Mosul, Dohuk, Irbil, Tall Afar, Ayn Zalah, Zakho and Amadiyah.

2. Southern region: 60 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Basra, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Qurnah, Chabaish, Qal'at Salih, Salman, Busayyah, Jalibah and Artawi.

18 May 1995

1. Northern region: 17 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Mosul, Dohuk, Irbil, Aqrah and Tall Afar.

2. Southern region: 32 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basra, Qurnah, Chabaish, Shanafiyah and Artawi.

3. At 0705 hours on 18 May 1995, a United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at a speed of 600 kilometres per hour and at an altitude of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region. It left in the direction of Kuwait at 0822 hours.

19 May 1995

1. Southern region: 60 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Samawah, Nasiriyah, Salman, Artawi, Busayyah and Jalibah.

2. On 19 May 1995, two United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region, as follows:

The first flight entered Iraqi airspace at 0858 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1040 hours.

The second flight entered Iraqi airspace at 1145 hours and left in the direction of Kuwait at 1335 hours.

20 May 1995

1. Northern region: 21 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Mosul, Dohuk, Aqrah, Amadiyah and Zakho.

2. Southern region: 51 sorties, flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at medium altitudes, over Basra, Nasiriyah, Qurnah, Chabaish and Artawi.

3. At 0700 hours on 20 May 1995, a United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at a speed of 600 kilometres per hour and at an altitude of 20,000 metres violated Iraqi airspace in the southern region. It left in the direction of Kuwait at 0820 hours.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative